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a camera section including multiple cameras and image data cutdown means, the image data cutdown means reducing the amount of original image data representing camera images captured by the multiple cameras, the camera section outputting the reduced image data;

an image processing section, which receives the reduced image data through the transmission path and produces a synthesized image from the reduced image data,

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the image processing section selectively produces any of multiple types of synthesized images and changes the types of the synthesized images to be produced, and

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wherein the image data cutdown means compresses the original image data, representing the camera images for use in the image synthesis, according to the resolutions specified by the resolution specifier.

5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the shutdown mode selecting means comprises an area specifier for specifying areas that should be necessary to produce the synthesized image for each said camera image for use in the image synthesis, and

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6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the original image data is read out from each said camera in a controllable order, and

wherein the camera section or the image processing section comprises a readout controller for controlling the order, in which the original image data representing each said camera image for use in the image synthesis is read out, in compliance with the cutdown mode selected by the cutdown mode selecting means.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the cameras are mounted on a vehicle to capture images of the vehicle's surroundings.

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